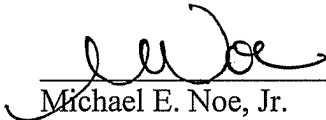


REMARKS

Applicant affirms the election of Group I and Claims 1-17 without traverse. Claims 18-40 are hereby canceled since they are directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 10 and 14 were amended to overcome the objection cited by the Examiner under 37 CFR 1.75(c). Applicant appreciates the suggestions offered by the Examiner to overcome the objections to Claims 13-17. Accordingly, Claim 1 was rewritten with the language of canceled Claim 13 and is now allowable along with the remaining dependent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time or other fees are believed to be required. However, in the event that one or more fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587.**

Respectfully submitted,



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